

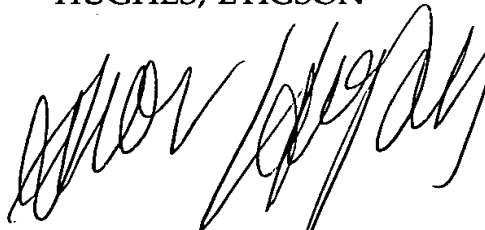
By virtue of the foregoing amendment, all the claims of PCT Application Serial No. PCT/CA97/00172 (the "172" application) have been cancelled except for Claim 94; and new Claims 101 to 170 have been added. The basis for the limitations of these new claims is present in the "172" application, as filed.

Applicants also enclose herewith an Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3), prior to issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Applicant respectfully solicits the Examiner's consideration of the cited references and entry thereof into the record of this application.

If the Examiner wishes to discuss this matter with Applicant's agent, he/she is respectfully requested to contact Ivor M. Hughes or Samuel T. Tekie at (905) 771-6414 collect at her convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

HUGHES, ETIGSON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ivor M. Hughes', is written over the printed name and title.

Ivor M. Hughes
Registration No. 27,759
Agent for Applicant

IMH/mse
Enclosures

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